Delay in clearing list of goods for import and export

†26. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kelker Committee had accepted the delay in clearing the list of goods for import and export;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken so far to overcome this delay;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the average period of delay assessed by the above Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee has observed that clearance time at Indian ports/airports is still far from the best international practices.

(b) to (d) Various measures have been taken to reduce the transaction cost and time in imports and exports in recent past which include expansion of EDI system to new locations other than 23 major ports/airports. A self-assessment scheme called the 'Accelerated Clearance of Import and Export Scheme (ACS)' for selected items/ importer has been introduced at Sahar Airport, ICD, Tughlakabad and Chennai sea Customs on trial basis. The Committee has not given any finding of specific time period of delay in its report.

Export growth

27. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) as Government have estimated 12 per cent growth, which in Rupee terms comes to Rs. 2,73,636 crores in 2003-04 as compared to Rupees 2,50,130 crores in 2002-03, what are the export earning in Rupee terms in the first quarter (1st April to 30th June, 2003);

(b) the steps being taken to achieve this target; and

(c) whether any fortnightly monitoring mechanism has been evolved?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.